AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

IN THE WRITTEN DESCRIPTION:

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 47, line 6 with the following amended paragraph:

The linerized vector from example 15 was transformed by electroporation (http://www.bio.uva.nl/pombe/handbook) ~~Suga, M. et al. High Efficiency Transformation of Schizosaccharomyces pombe Pretreated with Thiol Compounds by Electroporation, Yeast, 18(11), pp. 1015-1021, (Aug 2001)~~ to the S. Pombe strain ATCC201400. A control strain was made in a similar way be integrating the empty vector pJK210. The transformants were selected for URA auxotrophy. The multicopy vector from example 16 was transformed in the same way. Transformants were selected for additional LEU auxotrophy. The resulting strain is called H2369 (VTT C-99323) and the control strain without malic enzyme activity H2370 (VTT C-99324).

Please replace the paragraph starting at page 47, line 29 with the following amended paragraph:

The inoculum was prepared by transferring a single colony into a 250 ml Erlenmeyer flask that contained 20 ml of Edinburgh Minimal Medium

(http://www.bio.uva.nl/pombe/handbook/section1/section1-8.html)

~~Suga, M. et al. High Efficiency Transformation of~~

~~Schizosaccharomyces pombe Pretreated with Thiol Compounds by Electroporation, Yeast, 18(11), pp. 1015-1021, (Aug 2001)~~ with 225 mg/l adenine, histidine and lysine hydrochloride added (EMM2+ADE+HIS+LYS) + 20g/l glucose. Cells were grown about 50 hours on a rotary shaker at 200 rpm, 30°C and then the whole broth was transferred to another 250 ml Erlenmeyer flask that contained 50 ml of the same medium. Cells were grown about 24 hours on a rotary shaker at 200 rpm, 30°C and then the whole broth was transferred to a 2 L flask that contained 700 ml EMM2+ADE+HIS+LYS + 50 g/l glucose. The culture was grown for about 40 hours as above and the cells were then washed with 0.1 M phosphate buffer (pH=5.5) and resuspended in the same buffer each to a final volume of 100 ml, OD 600 of the both strains were adjusted to same value with buffer and subsequently transferred to the fermentor. The fermentation medium contained EMM2 + ADE (225 mg/L) + HIS (450 mg/L) + LYS (450 mg/L) + 50 g/L xylose.